

# 2011 Military Health System Conference

## TRICARE Policy and Operations

Evolving to Support the Quadruple Aim

*The Quadruple Aim: Working Together, Achieving Success*

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January 24, 2011



TRICARE Management Activity

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE <b>24 JAN 2011</b>		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED <b>00-00-2011 to 00-00-2011</b>	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE <b>TRICARE Policy and Operations: Evolving to Support the Quadruple Aim</b>				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>Military Health System, TRICARE Management Activity, 5111 Leesburg Pike, Skyline 5, Falls Church, VA, 22041</b>				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT <b>Approved for public release; distribution unlimited</b>					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES <b>presented at the 2011 Military Health System Conference, January 24-27, National Harbor, Maryland</b>					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT <b>Same as Report (SAR)</b>	18. NUMBER OF PAGES <b>18</b>	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>			

# Outline



- Track L Overview
- Examples of Evolution
  - TRICARE in Alaska
  - Autism Services Demonstration





- Evolving to achieve the Quadruple Aim
  - Affecting all four aspects
    - Readiness
    - Population Health
    - Experience of Care
    - Per Capita Cost



# Track L



Track L Session #	Topic	Quadruple Aim Element Impacted
1	a. TRICARE Overseas Contract b. Heidelberg MEDDAC Lessons Learned	1, 2, 3, 4 1, 2, 3, 4
2	a. TRICARE in Alaska b. Autism Services Demonstration c. A Regional View	3 1 1, 2, 3, 4
3	TRICARE Pharmacy Programs	3, 4
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8	TRICARE Policy and Operations Update	2, 3, 4
9	T4 Generation Study Group – What Does the Future Hold for the MHS?	1, 2, 3, 4

**1. Readiness   2. Population Health   3. Experience of Care   4. Per Capita Cost**



# TRICARE in ALASKA



# TRICARE in Alaska



- Obtaining health care in Alaska is challenging
  - Beneficiary demand often exceeds provider supply
    - 1,700 non-Federal physicians
  - Reimbursement rates exceed those in other states
  - Many remote areas
- TRICARE beneficiaries in Alaska:
  - 90,000: 14 percent of the population
    - 78,000 ADSMs and ADFMs
    - 12,000 retirees and their families

# TRICARE in Alaska



- TRICARE Prime offered only in military treatment facilities
- Enrollees frequently sent to Washington State for specialty care
  - Impact on readiness
  - Prime Travel Benefit costs
- Special reimbursement rates
  - State-wide reimbursement demonstration
    - Physicians and other non-institutional providers paid above Medicare rates
    - Expires December 31, 2012



# TRICARE in Alaska – The Way Ahead



- Expand implementation of the TRICARE Program in Alaska
  - Federal Register notice published November 3, 2010
  - MCSC develop and operate a limited TRICARE civilian preferred provider network
    - Establish Fairbanks Prime Service Areas
    - Permit enrollment to network primary care managers

# TRICARE in Alaska – The Way Ahead



- Preferred provider network for Anchorage area
  - Pending successful establishment and operation of Fairbanks preferred provider network
  
- Establish new reimbursement system
  - Based upon reimbursement demonstration results
  - Legislation required



# Autism Services Demonstration



# Autism Services Demonstration - Background



- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
  - A promising educational / training intervention for treatment of autism spectrum disorders
  - Provided by Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA)
    - Certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB)
    - Access problem: relatively few BCBAs available

# Autism Services Demonstration - Background



- ABA can not be covered under the TRICARE Basic Program
  - Statute for Basic Program permits provision of only medical services and equipment
- ABA can be covered under the Extended Care Health Option (ECHO)
  - Statute permits provision of special education and training services to ADFMs

# Autism Services Demonstration - Purpose

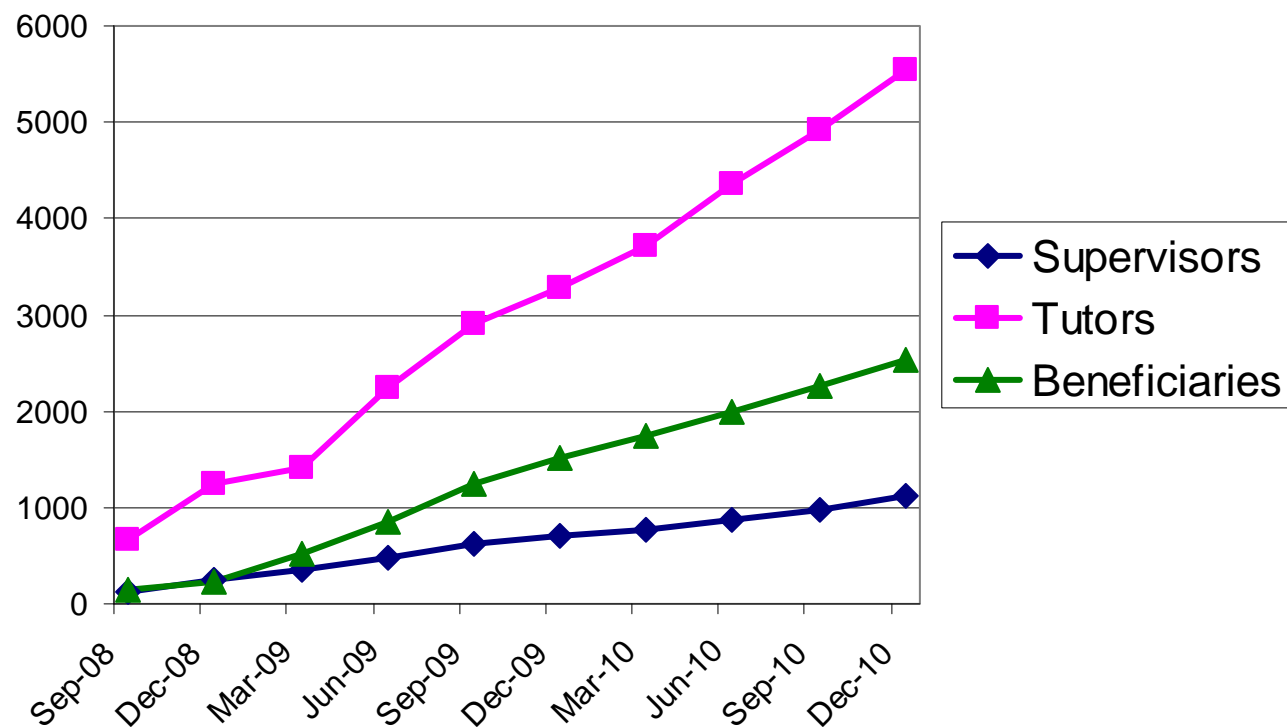


- Determine effectiveness of expanding the ABA provider base through use of “tutors”
  - Increase access to ABA services
  - Tutors work under supervision of BCBAs
  - Metrics:
    - Number of participating children, BCBAs, and tutors
    - Satisfaction of parents, as assessed by survey

# Autism Services Demonstration - Experience



- Demonstration period:
  - March 2008 – March 2012



# Autism Services Demonstration - Experience



- Autism Survey results:
  - Easier for beneficiaries to access providers
  - General satisfaction with the number of ABA service hours obtained
    - ECHO annual cap of \$36,000 on payments by TRICARE
  - Parents satisfied with quality of demonstration ABA services, though not as satisfied as those receiving only ECHO services



# Autism Services Demonstration - Experience



- Autism Survey results:
  - Half the parents with children enrolled in the Demonstration reported their child's condition was much better
    - 90 percent reported their child's condition was at least a little better since receiving ABA
  - About two-thirds of those with children enrolled in the Demonstration responded that receiving ABA services would greatly increase their chances of staying in the military
    - Compares with approximately 50 percent in the ECHO-only group

# Autism Services Demonstration - The Future



- Transition from the Demonstration to making the BCBA / tutor model a permanent ECHO benefit
  - Requires modifying the Code of Federal Regulations



# Questions?